

IOWA COLLEGE STUDENT AID COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING September 21, 2018

Members Present:

Michael Ash	Manny Atwood
Cassandra Bond (Cassie)	Tim Fitzgibbon
Rachael Johnson	Katie Mulholland
Mark Putnam	Doug Shull
Emily Stork	Jeremy Varner
Cindy Winckler	

Members Absent:

Cecil Dolecheck	Jeff Edler
Herman Quirnbach	Barbara Sloniker

Staff Present:

Todd Brown	Jennifer Christensen
Laura Ingleby	Elizabeth Keest-Sedrel
Tristan Lynn	Karen Misjak
Julie Ntem	Lisa Pundt
Christina Sibaouih	Carolyn Small
Darcie Sprouse	Mark Wiederspan

AG Present:

Emily Willits

Guests Present:

Robin Madison	LSA
Linda Schwinn	Capri College
Lois Leytem	Capri College

Call to Order

The Iowa College Student Aid Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on September 21, 2018. Commission Chair Mulholland called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. with introductions.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Misjak provided year-end numbers to the Commissioners regarding state appropriated scholarship, grant and loan repayment programs. In summary, 21,692 scholarship and grant awards totaling over \$63.5 million were made during the 2017-18 academic year. In addition, 311 awards were made to individuals employed in high need professions in Iowa, obligating over \$3.5 million.

The Iowa College and Career Readiness Academy is an Iowa specific interactive online program available for school professionals that are working toward a certification in college and career readiness. Iowa College Aid collaborated with the Iowa Department of Education, AEA PD Online and the Iowa School Counselors Association to develop a suite of five online courses. To date, 135 school professionals have enrolled, which is a much higher number than expected.

The GEAR UP Iowa students are in their junior year, which means it is time to take the ACT test. Staff contracted with Cambridge Educational Services for school districts to work with students to prepare them for taking the exam. Of the twelve school districts participating in GEAR UP Iowa, ten have already administered a practice test. The other two districts will be testing this fall. Ms. Misjak stated Des Moines North administered the practice test with a small group of students and saw a 2.7 composite score increase from the practice test to the ACT Exam. Staff is receiving positive feedback on the program.

Minutes of Meeting

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to approve the meeting minutes for the May 18, 2018 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Ash seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Administrative Rules

Mr. Brown introduced the motion to rescind Administrative Rules, Chapter 34, "Registered Nurse and Nurse Educator Loan Forgiveness Program". During the 2018 Legislative Session, Senate File 2415 replaced this program with the "Healthcare Loan Repayment Program". Registered Nurses and Nurse Educators will qualify for funding under the

"Healthcare Loan Repayment Program". Rescinding Chapter 34 completes the required action pursuant to Senate File 2415.

Motion: Commissioner Schull moved the amendments to Administrative Rules, Chapter 34, "Registered Nurse and Nurse Educator Loan Forgiveness Program". Commissioner Ash seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown introduced proposed changes to the Administrative Rules, Chapter 1. The amendment changes to Chapter 1 reflect the new address for the Commission.

Motion: Commissioner Fitzgibbon moved the amendments to Administrative Rules Chapter 1, "Organization and Operation". Commissioner Ash seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ETV Agreement Extension

Mr. Brown said this is the third extension of a five-year contract on the Education Training Voucher (ETV) program. The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) receives federal funds for this grant program. The funds are intended to reduce college expenses for students who are aging out of Iowa's foster care system. The Commission handles the administration and distribution of funds, and DHS pays all administrative costs for the program. During the last academic year, a little more than \$600,000 was awarded to 177 students. There are no substantial amendments to the agreement beyond extension of the contract.

Motion: Commissioner Shull moved to authorize the Executive Director to extend the agreement with the Iowa Department of Human Services for the administration of the Education Training Voucher (ETV) for the 10/1/2018 to 09/30/2019 term. Commissioner Ash seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Condition of Higher Education Report

Dr. Wiederspan presented the 2018 edition of the Condition of Higher Education report.

Representative Winckler expressed concern that student ACT scores in math and science may be impacted by the practice of allowing teachers to recommend future math and science tracks. She suggested this as an area to explore when reviewing attainment levels in STEM coursework and the rigor that is expected in math and science.

In response to reduced FAFSA filing rate data, Representative Winckler commented that the growth in funding in K-12 has been below economic growth for several years. She opined that schools might have reduced the number of counselors on staff, leading to students not having support systems that would encourage FAFSA filing. She suggested correlating the number of counselors in school districts to those years to determine if there is an impact.

Commissioner Fitzgibbon opined that the perception of college expense and fear of college debt might influence FAFSA filing rates.

Commissioner Mulholland requested the PowerPoint presentation be distributed for later reference.

Audit and Finance Committee

Commissioner Fitzgibbon reported the Audit and Finance Committee met and discussed the final financials for SFY18 and SFY19 through August. He announced that Samita Basnet has resigned and the Accountant III position has been posted.

Commissioner Fitzgibbon advised the Commission that the GEAR UP Iowa 1.0 scholarship fund shortfall has been paid, and reported that moving expenses came in just below the total amount that was authorized.

Commissioner Fitzgibbon stated the State Audit Report was distributed. Two findings were reported and neither had a fiscal impact. One was procedural regarding separation of duties. The other concerned overestimating/underestimating numbers represented in the GAAP Package.

In response to a question, Ms. Misjak stated none of the most recent move expenses were paid by the State, though rent at 430 East Grand was supplemented by the State after the move from the hospital for two state fiscal years.

Legislative Committee

Commissioner Ash reported the Legislative Committee had met several times over pending legislative changes and the budget.

Mr. Brown introduced the recommended amendment to the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship. The change removes age provisions for foster care students and dependents of public safety workers that were killed in the line of duty. Current wording includes age provisions that could prevent these populations from receiving the maximum benefit of the

scholarship. This recommendation strikes those age ranges so that all applicants for the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship are treated equally in terms of the core eligibility criteria.

Motion: Commissioner Ash moved to authorize the Executive Director to initiate policy amendments to the All Iowa Opportunity Scholarship during the 2019 legislative session. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown stated the recommended amendment to the Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grant, also known as the Kibbie grant, strikes a code reference to the Department of Workforce Development that will be repealed on July 1, 2019. The requirement of using statewide high demand jobs in order to add programs of study will be maintained. Additionally, grandfathering language was added to prevent program recipients from being harmed if a program of study aligned with a high demand job was removed from eligibility.

Motion: Commissioner Atwood moved to authorize the Executive Director to initiate policy amendments to the Skilled Workforce Shortage Tuition Grant during the 2019 legislative session. Commissioner Ash seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown provided background on the appropriations requests for FY2020-FY2021. Mr. Brown explained the appropriations charts distributed to Commissioners. Representative Winckler explained the standing appropriation for the Iowa Work Study Program. In response to a question, Mr. Brown explained that the Iowa Work Study Program has not been funded since the 2008-2009 Academic Year.

Motion: Commissioner Putnam moved to approve the Agency and Commission Board budget requests for FY2020-FY2021. Commissioner Ash seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Commissioner Varner abstained from the vote.

Board Structure Sub-Committee

Dr. Wiederspan reported the 2016-2018 Strategic Plan is ending and planning for the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan has started. The Committee reviewed recommendations from the NCHEMS report for inclusion in the new Strategic Plan. Staff will submit a draft of the plan to the Committee prior to the November Commission meeting.

Staff Report

Ms. Sibaouih reported on a study completed using data from the GEAR UP Iowa 1.0 project that demonstrate the efficacy of GEAR UP. This report was one of the first of its kind. A second study is underway and will be shared after completion.

Ms. Misjak provided an update of FY2019 year-to-date financials.

Ms. Small provided a report on Postsecondary Registration Approvals as well as Exemption and SARA Approvals, Exemption Approvals and provided a list of Exemption Applications that are currently under review. Ms. Small also discussed provisions that allow the Commission to revoke registration of schools that do not comply with the Exempt School Law.

Ms. Misjak reported on the close of the 2016-18 Strategic Plan. Staff presentations from Strategic Plan Team Leaders highlighted actions taken and goal strategies met by each of the four Strategic Goal teams. Ms. Misjak noted the 2016-18 Strategic Plan was internally focused and the 2019-21 Strategic Plan will be more externally focused and incorporate the recommendations from the NCHEMS report.

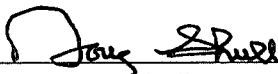
Commissioner Comments

Commission Chair Mulholland shared a memo regarding Future Ready Iowa Summits and encouraged Commissioners to attend one.

Commissioner Varner commented that Iowa ranks third or fourth from the bottom on the Education Consumer Survey State Data Brief in terms of the percentage of the state's workforce without a Bachelor's Degree who feel they need additional education for career advancement is troubling. He stated the key to hitting Future Ready Iowa Goals is to meet the needs of the workforce concerning career advancing educational opportunities and upskilling adults.

Adjourned at 12:27 p.m.


Katie Mulholland, Chair


Doug Shull, Vice Chair